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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/884,353	06/18/2001	Glenn R. Engel	10003415-1	2420

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EXAMINER

PATEL, NIKETA I

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2181

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/884,353

Applicant(s)

ENGEL ET AL.

Examiner

Niketa I. Patel

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 November 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) The invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 21, 25, 29, 33, 37 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mendez et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication No.: 2004/0139178 A1 (hereinafter “*Mendez*”).

3. **Referring to claims 21, 33, *Mendez* teaches a system, comprising: device that is capable of performing at least one behavior according to a set of configuration data [see figure 10 and paragraphs 0063-0064 and paragraphs 0072-0075]; the device generating an HTTP request on a communication network such that the HTTP request specifies a URL associated with the configuration data [see figure 10 and paragraphs 0063-0064 and paragraphs 0072-0075], configuring server that responds to the HTTP request by generating an HTTP response on the communication network such that the HTTP response carries the configuration data to the device [see figure 10 and paragraphs 0063-0064 and paragraphs 0072-0075].**

4. **Referring to claim 25, 37, *Mendez* teaches wherein the HTTP request includes a set of data obtained by the device when performing the behavior [see figure 10 and paragraphs 0063-0064 and paragraphs 0072-0075].**

5. **Referring to claim 29, *Mendez* teaches further comprising a local network that enables communication among the device and a set of additional devices [see paragraph 0039, LAN.]**

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 22-24, 26, 34-36 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mendez et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication No.: 2004/0139178 A1 (hereinafter "*Mendez*".)

8. Referring to claims 22, 23, 24, 34-36, *Mendez* teaches a system for device configuration [see figure 10 and paragraphs 0063-0064 and paragraphs 0072-0075] however does not set forth the limitation of wherein the behavior includes a sensor behavior, actuator behavior and a control behavior.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention that it was old and well known in the computer art to get the advantage of implementing various type of behaviors such as sensor, actuator and control in order to provide user with a flexible system. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to include a sensor behavior, actuator behavior and a control behavior to get this advantage.

9. Referring to claims 26, 38, *Mendez* teaches a system for device configuration, comprising: device that transfers a HTTP request via a communication network [see figure 10

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and paragraphs 0063-0064 and paragraphs 0072-0075] however does not set forth the limitation of a system wherein the request message includes a heartbeat indicator for the device.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention that it was old and well known in the computer art to get the advantage of making server aware of a status of networked devices connected thereto by periodically sending heartbeat message. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to include heartbeat message to get this advantage.

10. Claims 27-28, 30-32, 39 and 40-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mendez et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication No.: 2004/0139178 A1 (hereinafter "*Mendez*") as applied to claim 21 above, and further in view of Kobata et al. U.S. Patent Number: 6,591,367 (hereinafter referred to as "*Kobata*").

11. **Referring to claims 27, 39, *Mendez* teaches receiving the configuration data from a workstation [see *Eriksson* paragraphs 0072-0075] *Mendez* does not set forth the limitation of setting a configuration pending indicator however *Kobata* teaches this limitation [see *Kobata* column 4, lines 22-33.]** One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention would have clearly recognized that it is quite advantageous for the device configuration system of *Mendez* for providing protection from unauthorized use of data by a system. It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use configuration pending indicator to provide protection from unauthorized use of data by a system.

12. **Referring to claim 28, teachings of *Mendez* as modified by the teachings of *Kobata* teaches wherein the configuration server transfers the configuration data to the device in the**

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HTTP request if the configuration pending indicator is set and transfers an acknowledgement to the device otherwise [see *Kobata* column 4, lines 22-33.]

13. **Referring to claims 30, 40, 41**, teachings of *Mendez* as modified by the teachings of *Kobata* teaches wherein the HTTP request includes a configuration change message that indicates that a specified one of the additional devices has a set of pending configuration data on the configuration server however *Kobata* teaches this limitation [see *Kobata* column 4, lines 22-33.]

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention would have clearly recognized that it is quite advantageous for the device configuration system of *Mendez* for providing protection from unauthorized use of data by a system. It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use configuration pending indicator to provide protection from unauthorized use of data by a system.

14. **Referring to claim 31**, teachings of *Mendez* as modified by the teachings of *Kobata* teaches wherein the device transfers the configuration change message to the specified one of the additional devices via the local network [see *Mendez* paragraph 0089.]

15. **Referring to claims 32, 42**, teachings of *Mendez* as modified by the teachings of *Kobata* teaches wherein the specified one of the additional devices obtains the pending configuration data by transferring an additional request message to the configuration server via the communication network [see *Kobata* column 4, lines 22-33.]

Response to Arguments

16. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 21-42 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

17. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. **Narasimhan et al. U.S. Patent No.: 6,446,192 B1** teaches a web enabled programmable I/O interface, which provides a set of lines for connecting sensors, switches, indicators and actuators. Where the web enabled interface provides means for downloading configuration data via HTTP (see the summary on columns 2-4 and column 16, lines 5-22.)

18. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.


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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Niketa I. Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272 4156. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Huynh can be reached on (571) 272 4147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NP
02/02/2006


KIM HUYNH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
2/2/06